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**CORRECTION:** Corrects two counts of assault with a deadly weapon to one count of assault with a deadly weapon. Adds one count of assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury and a gang allegation. Also adds the bail amount.

May 23, 2019

## Long Beach Man Pleads Not Guilty to Assault, Violation of Civil Rights

An 18-year-old Long Beach man was charged today with alleged assault and violation of civil rights, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Bryan Blancas (dob 9/8/00) pleaded not guilty in case NA111991 to one count of assault with a deadly weapon, one count of assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily harm, two counts of violation of civil rights, one count of dissuading a witness by force or threat and one count of battery. A pre-hearing conference is scheduled June 3 in Department So1 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch.

The charges include an allegation that the assaults were committed for the benefit of, at the direction of, an in association with a criminal street gang.

On May 15, Blancas and his friends allegedly confronted a 17-year-old African American teen. When the victim attempted to flee, Blancas is accused of knocking the victim to the ground and punching and kicking him multiple times in the head, face and torso, according to prosecutors.

Blancas was arrested May 21 in Long Beach. If convicted as charged, he faces a possible maximum sentence of life plus 17 years in state prison. Bail was set at \$1,155,000.

The case was investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.